


Amendments to the Claims:

This list of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

 Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for treating ~~sexual~~ erectile dysfunction in a male patient comprising topically administering to the genitals of said patient an effective amount of L-arginine or a derivative of L-arginine sufficient to allow the male patient to develop or sustain an erection and an effective amount of an antioxidant.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is selected from the group consisting of hydroxylated L-arginine, di-, tri- or tetra-peptides having L-arginine or hydroxylated L-arginine at the amino terminal end, esters of L-arginine, esters of hydroxylated L-arginine, amides of L-arginine, amides of hydroxylated L-arginine, L-homoarginine, hydroxylated L-homoarginine, esters of L-homoarginine, esters of hydroxylated L-arginine, amides of L-homoarginine and amides of hydroxylated L-arginine.

Claim 3 (original): The method of Claim 2, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is the methyl ester of L-arginine.

Claim 4 (original): The method of Claim 2, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is the ethyl ester of L-arginine.

Claim 5 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is a mixture of methyl ester of L-arginine and ethyl ester of L-arginine.

Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the antioxidant is ascorbic acid or derivatives thereof.

Claim 7 (original): The method of Claim 6, wherein said antioxidant is a combination of ascorbic acid and ascorbic acid palmitate.

Claim 8 (original): The method of Claim 6, wherein the derivative of L-arginine is a methyl ester of L-arginine, an ethyl ester of L-arginine, or mixtures thereof.

Claim 9 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said L-arginine or derivative of L-arginine and said antioxidant are administered concurrently in the same composition.

Claim 10 (original): The method of Claim 9, wherein said composition is in the form of a gel, ointment, foam, spray, cream, salve, lotion liquid or emulsion or liposomal suspension.

Claim 11 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said effective amounts are those amounts necessary to cause the desired level of blood flow to erectile tissue while minimizing peroxynitrite levels.

Claim 12 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein said L-arginine or derivative of L-arginine and said antioxidant are applied to the glans, shaft or both of the penis.

Claim 13 (original): A method for treating sexual dysfunction in a female patient comprising topically administering to the genitals of said patient an effective amount of L-arginine or a derivative of L-arginine and an effective amount of an antioxidant.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method of Claim 13, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is selected from the group consisting of hydroxylated L-arginine, di-, tri- or tetra-peptides having L-arginine or hydroxylated L-arginine at the amino terminal end, esters of L-arginine, esters of hydroxylated L-arginine, amides of L-arginine, amides of hydroxylated L-arginine, L-homoarginine, hydroxylated L-homoarginine, esters of L-homoarginine, esters of hydroxylated L-arginine, amides of L-homoarginine and amides of hydroxylated L-arginine.

Claim 15 (original): The method of Claim 14, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is the methyl ester of L-arginine.

Claim 16 (original): The method of Claim 14, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is the ethyl ester of L-arginine.

Claim 17 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is a mixture of methyl ester of L-arginine and ethyl ester of L-arginine.

Claim 18 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein the antioxidant is ascorbic acid or derivatives thereof.

Claim 19 (original): The method of Claim 18, wherein said antioxidant is a combination of ascorbic acid and ascorbic acid palmitate.

Claim 20 (original): The method of Claim 18, wherein the derivative of L-arginine is a mixture of methyl ester of L-arginine and ethyl ester of L-arginine.

Claim 21 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said L-arginine or derivatives of L-arginine and said antioxidant are administered concurrently in the same composition.

Claim 22 (original): The method of Claim 21, wherein said composition is in the form of a gel, ointment, foam, spray, cream, salve, lotion, liquid, emulsion or liposomal suspension.

Claim 23 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said effective amounts are those amounts necessary to cause the desired level of blood flow to erectile tissue while minimizing peroxynitrite levels.

Claim 24 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said L-arginine or derivative of L-arginine and said antioxidant are applied to the clitoral hood.

Claim 25 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said treatment results in enhancement of sexual pleasure.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): A composition comprising L-arginine or a derivative of L-arginine and an antioxidant in a pharmaceutical carrier suitable for application to the genitals.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The composition of Claim 26, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is selected from the group consisting of hydroxylated L-arginine, di-, tri- or tetra-peptides having L-arginine or hydroxylated L-arginine at the amino terminal end, esters of L-arginine, esters of hydroxylated L-arginine, amides of L-arginine, amides of hydroxylated L-arginine, L-homoarginine, hydroxylated L-homoarginine, esters of L-homoarginine, esters of hydroxylated L-arginine, amides of L-homoarginine and amides of hydroxylated L-arginine.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): The composition of Claim 27, wherein said derivative of L-arginine is selected from the group consisting of the methyl ester of L-arginine, the ethyl ester of L-arginine, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): The composition of Claim 28, wherein the antioxidant is ascorbic acid or derivatives thereof.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): The composition of Claim 29, wherein said antioxidant is a combination of ascorbic acid and acid palmitate.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The composition of Claim 26, wherein said pharmaceutical carrier is a liposomal suspension.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The composition of Claim 26, further comprising one or more excipients selected from the group consisting of surfactants, suspending agents, emulsifiers, osmotic enhancers, extenders and dilutants, pH modifiers, fragrances, colors, flavors, humectants, emollients and absorption enhancers.
